

SOMERSET COUNTY COMMISSIONERS



300 North Center Avenue, Suite 500 • Somerset, PA 15501
(814) 445-1400 • (814) 445-7991 Fax
www.co.somerset.pa.us

Gerald Walker, Chairman
John P. Terlingo, Vice Chairman
Pamela Tokar-Ickes, Secretary

November 5, 2019

Via Electronic Mailing Only

Adrien Salzberg
MuckRock News
DEPT MR 81997
411A Highland Avenue
Somerville, Massachusetts 02144-2516
81997-75826003@requests.muckrock.com

Re: *October 22, 2019 Right-to-Know Law Request*

Dear Adrien:

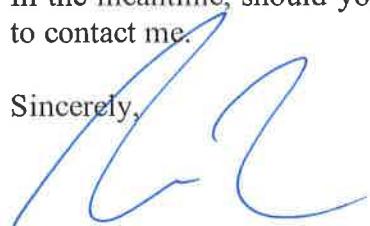
Please be advised that I serve as Solicitor for the County of Somerset, Pennsylvania (the “County”) and in said capacity, I am acting for the designated County Open-Records Officer relative to your correspondence dated October 22, 2019 directed to the “Somerset County Election Board” which I am hereby treating as a written request under Pennsylvania’s Right-to-Know Law (sometimes hereinafter “RTKL” or simply the “Law”). While said request is dated October 22nd, it was not received by the County Open-Records Officer until October 29, 2019.

As you may be aware, Section 901 of the Right-to-Know Law generally requires an agency response to your request within five (5) business days from the open-records officer’s receipt of your request. *See 65 P.S. § 67.901.* Since your request was received by the County Open-Records Officer on October 29th, our response would typically be due by the date hereof. Upon preliminary review of your request, however, I note that the extent and nature of your request precludes a response within the required time period, especially due to bona fide staffing limitations, and may require legal review to determine whether the records you have requested are subject to access under the Right-to-Know Law. Certain records may also require redaction pursuant to Section 706 of the Right-to-Know Law and notification of third parties pursuant to Section 707(b) of the Law. Accordingly, pursuant to Section 902 of the Right-to-Know Law, the County is hereby asserting its right to claim an additional thirty (30) days to evaluate your

request for the reasons aforesaid. See 65 P.S. § 67.902. As such, the County will issue a final response to your request on or before **Thursday, December 5, 2019**.

In the meantime, should you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "MB".

Michael P. Barbera, Esq.

MPB:lls

cc: Sonya K. Augustine
Chief Clerk
County of Somerset
300 North Center Avenue, Suite 500
Somerset, Pennsylvania 15501
(814) 445-1400